

She was a music lover with tastes running the gamut from jazz to house to neo-soul to old school R&B. She loved to watch Grey's Anatomy and she had to find out what songs had been used during each episode so she could put them on her iPod.

Nailah will most be remembered as a successful professional, doting aunt, loving daughter, sister, niece and friend—a woman of extraordinary grace and resilience whose spirit blessed all who knew her.

Her family has established the Nailah O. Franklin Memorial Fund at the Chicago Community Trust. The fund will make grants to prevent violence and guide young people's educational and social development.

I pay tribute to this beautiful life lost.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2007*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to a family emergency, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

Had I been present on October 3, 2007, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 932 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 701), "no" on rollcall vote No. 933 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 702), "no" on rollcall vote No. 934 (on passage of H. Res. 702), "no" on rollcall vote No. 935 (on agreeing to the Conyers amendment to H.R. 928), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 936 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 928 with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 937 (on passage of H.R. 928), "no" on rollcall vote No. 938 (on motion to postpone consideration of the veto message of H.R. 976).

Also, had I been present on October 4, 2007, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 939 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 2470 with instructions), "no" on rollcall vote No. 940 (on passage of H.R. 2470)—While I support holding Federal contractors and employees accountable for criminal actions that they may commit while serving our Nation overseas, I have concerns with the drafting of H.R. 2740. I am hopeful that the Senate can address these concerns and return to the House a bill that accomplishes the above goal in a workable fashion. "No" on rollcall vote No. 941 (on ordering of the previous question of H. Res. 704), "no" on rollcall vote No. 942 (on passage of H. Res. 704), "no" on rollcall vote No. 943 (on ordering of the previous question of H. Res. 703), "no" on rollcall vote No. 944 (on passage of H. Res. 703), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 945 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 3246 with instructions), "no" on rollcall vote No. 946 (on passage of H.R. 3246), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 947 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 3648 with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 948 (on passage of H.R. 3648).

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
HELEN BASS SMITH ON HER  
90TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Mrs. Smith has shown an extraordinary commitment to her community by volunteering at the Salvation Army in Cadiz, Ohio and at the Harrison Community Hospital, where she has been president of the Hospital Auxiliary for four years; and

Whereas, Mrs. Smith has demonstrated values of hard work and service throughout her life, always maintaining a positive outlook; and

Whereas, Mrs. Smith has worked for the United States Department of Agriculture, the Scio Pottery Company, Lib Gray's Dressmaker Shop, and as a farmer for many years and still continues her active lifestyle by walking two miles every day; and

Whereas, Mrs. Smith's character has been praised by her hospital volunteer coordinator, who describes her as "nothing short of magnificent" and that her spirit is "not a day over 14"; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I wish Helen Bass-Smith a happy and healthy 90th birthday. We recognize the tremendous impact she has had in her community and in the lives of all those people she has touched.

RECOGNIZING REV. ARTHUR ST.  
CLAIR OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2007*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding individual who lived in the early days of Brooksville, Rev. Arthur St. Clair. Rev. St. Clair will be posthumously awarded the 2007 Great Brooksvillian of the Year at a ceremony next week. The award is presented annually to a current or former resident who has made a significant impact on the city of Brooksville.

Born in 1837, Arthur St. Clair was the former slave of Marina Sanderson May, a landowner and taxpayer in Brooksville. Upon gaining his freedom, Rev. St. Clair became a leader in the Reconstruction-era politics of Hernando County and a founder of the Bethlehem Progressive Baptist Church. He also went on to become a Baptist minister, presiding over services at the new church, originally located on South Lemon Street. He and his brother also helped to found the first African-American school in Hernando County.

Eventually rising to serve as the voter registrar, deputy sheriff, county commissioner, a captain in the state militia, and a four-time Republican nominee for the Florida State House of Representatives, Rev. St. Clair was a prominent leader in Brooksville and Hernando County. In an era when black men throughout the South were looked down upon and relegated to second class citizenship, it is a tes-

tament to the character and personality of Arthur St. Clair that he remained a valued member of the Hernando County community for so many years.

In his role as an African-American Baptist minister, Rev. St. Clair was not afraid to take on controversial issues, including that of mixed marriages; those marriages considered taboo in the mid to late 19th century. On a spring day in 1877, Rev. St. Clair presided over a wedding ceremony between a black man and a white woman. This did not sit well with several members of the community, and later that summer on a trip home from Fort Dade, a mob set upon Rev. St. Clair and shot him to death.

In efforts to cover up the crime, the perpetrators then set fire to the courthouse, burning all the records and voter files for the entire county. This led to a severe deterioration of race relations in Hernando County, an episode that some have called a "race war" and left a lasting impression on Hernando County for nearly a quarter of a century.

Madam Speaker, the city of Brooksville was lucky to have had a man like Arthur St. Clair take an active role in our community and have been such an advocate for civic involvement and religious freedoms. I am proud to recognize his accomplishments, and congratulate his descendants on Arthur St. Clair being named the 2007 Great Brooksvillian of the Year.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE  
JO ANN DAVIS, 1950–2007

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2007*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sorrow today as the House of Representatives mourns the passing of The Honorable Jo Ann Davis, Congresswoman from the First District of Virginia. Congresswoman Davis succumbed to breast cancer on Saturday after a lengthy struggle with the disease. I was greatly saddened when I heard the news of her passing. I will be keeping her husband Chuck, their surviving family, and her congressional staff members in my thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

I had the distinct pleasure of being able to know Jo Ann from her early days in Congress when she was first elected in 2000. She leaves behind a legacy of constant dedication to our men and women in uniform. Though she struggled with breast cancer the past 2 years, but she remained determined in her commitment to continue serving her district, and our service men and women. This same drive was evident at the beginning of her career in public service. Her first election to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1997 came as a result of her defeating a heavily favored 15-term incumbent. There was never a challenge too large for her to pursue, and her constituents were the benefactor of this unswerving commitment to public service. She will be greatly missed by me, our colleagues, and the people of Virginia. God Bless.